

REMARKS

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 17 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Hosono et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,462,985). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 18. Claim 18 has been canceled without prejudice. Claim 19 has been amended to depend from claim 17. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 17 is not anticipated by *Hosono et al.*

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16 were allowed.

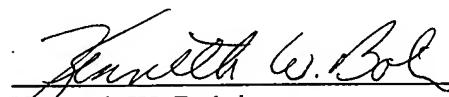
Claims 18-22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Since claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 18, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claims 19-22.

CONCLUSION

For the above-cited reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow the claims of the present application. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 312-2211. No new matter has been added and no additional fee is required by this amendment and response.

Respectfully submitted,

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